

Minutes
MANSFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Regular Meeting – Thursday, May 26, 2016
Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members Present: J. McGuire, R. Beebe, G. Thompson, C. Chukwuogor, M. Hirschorn (6:20 p.m.), A. Marcellino (ex officio)

Staff Present: Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development

J. McGuire called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Public Comment: No public comment was received.

Old Business:

1. *Update on Project Green Space.* Painter noted that the initiative had died and therefore no Council action was taken.
2. *Economic Development Website Update/Criteria for Choosing Featured Businesses.* Members would like to feature a business each quarter and will submit ideas on criteria for selection to Painter via email. By consensus, members concurred with the write-up for the Adventure Park at Storrs and suggested that the next business be the Mansfield Drive-In based on its recent recognition as Mansfield Business of the Year by the Windham Chamber.

New Business

1. *Agriculture Committee Collaboration Update.* McGuire updated the Commission on recent discussions with the Agriculture Committee regarding potential joint projects, including joint visitations to agricultural businesses and the proposed Farm to Table Dinner.
2. *Mansfield/UConn Sewer Agreement.* Painter updated the Commission on the status of the draft sewer service agreement, which was recently provided to the Council for their consideration. Members discussed the proposed percentage of capacity and inquired as to what percentage Mansfield is currently using.
3. *Four Corners Water and Sewer Project; Four Corners Development.* Painter updated the Commission on the status of the water project, which is expected to be completed this summer, and the sewer project, which is in the final stages of environmental review. This item will become a standing old-business item for the Commission to begin discussing a vision for future redevelopment.
4. *PZC Referral: Proposed Zoning Regulations.* Members discussed the proposed revisions to the Zoning Regulations. With regard to alcohol, members were concerned that no progress had been made with regard to the corresponding changes that would be needed to the Code of Ordinances to allow brew pubs. McGuire requested that Painter research whether the Commission could initiate the petition drive to change alcohol regulations and what would be involved in such an effort. Painter will provide the information to the Commission via email.

McGuire MOVED, Thompson seconded to endorse the proposed changes to Zoning Regulations related to alcohol and live/amplified music. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

- McGuire noted that UConn had recently received a grant to create the Quiet Corner Innovation Cluster (QCIC) and suggested that UConn and CT Innovations be invited to make a presentation. Painter noted that Hart had already reached out to UConn to learn more about the grant.
- Painter inquired as to whether the Commission would be interested in changing to a bi-monthly meeting schedule due to the difficulties in achieving a quorum. Members wanted to continue to meet monthly; however, it was suggested that the membership be polled regarding availability in the summer months.

Approval of Minutes: McGuire MOVED and Thompson seconded to approve the March 24, 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment: McGuire adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.